

5        A PROCESS FOR PREPARING A BRANCHED OLEFIN,  
A METHOD OF USING THE BRANCHED OLEFIN FOR MAKING  
A SURFACTANT, AND A SURFACTANT

Abstract of the Disclosure

10        A process for preparing branched olefins comprising  
0.5% or less quaternary aliphatic carbon atoms, which  
process comprises dehydrogenating an isoparaffinic  
composition over a suitable catalyst which isoparaffinic  
composition comprises paraffins having a carbon number in  
15 the range of from 7 to 35, of which paraffins at least a  
portion of the molecules is branched, the average number of  
branches per paraffin molecule being at least 0.7 and the  
branching comprising methyl and optionally ethyl branches,  
and which isoparaffinic composition may be obtained by  
20 hydrocracking and hydroisomerization of a paraffinic wax; a  
method of using olefins for making an anionic surfactant, a  
nonionic surfactant or a cationic surfactant, in particular  
a surfactant sulfate or sulfonate, comprising converting  
the branched olefins into the surfactant; and an anionic  
25 surfactant, a nonionic surfactant or a cationic surfactant  
which is obtainable by the method of use.